

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 SIL-01

LAB-06 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01 /088 W

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R 281834Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

SECSTATE WASHDC 7895

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION BERLIN

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

UNCLAS PARIS 07733

BRUSSELS, LONDON, BERLIN, FRANKFURT FOR FAA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, FR

SUBJECT: REFORM OF FRENCH AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL SERVICES

REF: PARIS 6481; PARIS 6631

1. WE UNDERSTAND THAT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRANSPORTATION, AYMAR ACHILLE-FOULD, HAS OUTLINED TO UNION LEADERS REPRESENTING AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS A PROPOSED PLAN FOR REORGANIZING THE SERVICES RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONTROL OF AIR TRAFFIC OVER FRANCE. THIS PLAN, WHICH WAS DEVELOPED BY GOF SERVICES CONCERNED, WAS SUBMITTED TO THE GOF FOR STUDY WITH GOAL BEING ADOPTION BY THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS BY MID-APRIL.

2. THE PLAN INCLUDES THE CREATION OF A "DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR AIRSPACE", WHICH WOULD BE AN INTERDEPARTMENTAL BODY REPORTING TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRANSPORTATION AND INTEGRATING MILITARY AND CIVIL SERVICES RESPONSIBLE FOR AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL. THE FORMATION

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OF THIS DIRECTORATE GENERAL WOULD RESULT IN ABOLITION OF

THE "DELEGATION A L'ESPACE AERIEN" WHICH IS A CIVIL/MILITARY COORDINATING COMMITTEE REPORTING TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S CABINET; THE DIRECTORATE OF AIR NAVIGATION IN THE SGAC AND OF THE DIRECTORATE FOR MILITARY AIR TRAFFIC.

3. AGENCE FRANCE PRESS REPORTS IN A NEWS RELEASE DATED MARCH 28 THAT THE AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS' UNIONS (CFTC & CGT), ALTHOUGH AGREEING TO THE NEED FOR RESTRUCTURING AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL, REITERATED THEIR OPPOSITION TO MIXING MILITARY AND CIVILIAN AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL FUNCTIONS ENABLING THE MILITARY TO TAKE OVER "IN CASE OF CRISIS".

4. GIRAUD, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF AIR NAVIGATION AT SGAC, INFORMED FAA REP THAT IN HIS OPINION REFORM WAS NEEDED. IT WOULD FACILITATE COORDINATION BETWEEN CIVILIAN AND MILITARY USE OF AIRSPACE AND PROVIDE FRANCE WITH INTEGRATED AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM. HE THOUGHT IT UNLIKELY THAT CIVILIAN AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS WOULD GO OUT ON STRIKE IN PROTEST AND HE DISMISSED THEIR COMPLAINTS AS THE KIND OF REACTION THAT OFTEN GREETES ANY MAJOR REFORM. STONE

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL  
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**Draft Date:** 28 MAR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
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**Reference:** PARIS 6481; PARIS 6631  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** kellerpr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 11 APR 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <11 APR 2002 by kellerpr>; APPROVED <11 APR 2002 by kellerpr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REFORM OF FRENCH AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL SERVICES  
**TAGS:** ETRN, FR  
**To:** BRUSSELS STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005